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The informative easy to read introduction to world news

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## Activities

## Advanced version

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Russia and its North Caucasus (Page 1)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Russia and its North Caucasus'.

Answer questions 1-16.

1. Which parts of Russia are often called the North Caucasus?

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2. What happened at Moscow's international airport in 2011?

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3. Who is Vladimir Putin?

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4. Where were the explosions in Volgograd?

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5. Name the capital of Russia and its second largest city.

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6. Why is Dokka Umarov described as 'Russia's most wanted man'?

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7. Of what did many people accuse Russian soldiers during the fighting in Chechnya?

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8. Who or what are 'Black Widows'?

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**Russia and its North Caucasus (Page 1)** *continued*

9. How many federal subjects are there in Russia? Which ones are known as republics?

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10. What are the Winter Olympics? When and where will they next take place?

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11. Who was Osama bin Laden and what happened to him?

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12. What has Umarov claimed to have set up?

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13. What happened on 7th January?

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14. What has Mr Putin said about Russia's Winter Olympics?

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15. What are drones and how will they be used?

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16. What has Volgograd become a symbol of and why?

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**Fiat buys Chrysler (Page 4)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Fiat buys Chrysler'.

Tick either true or false for the following statements.

	TRUE	FALSE
1. In the USA, Alfa Romeo is one of the 'Big Three'.		
2. The recent announcement means that Fiat will now own 60% of Chrysler.		
3. Chrysler makes Jeep and Dodge cars.		
4. Sergio Marchionne is Fiat's boss.		
5. Chrysler's headquarters are in the state of Ohio, in the USA.		
6. Daimler-Benz is the company that makes Mercedes cars.		
7. Walter Chrysler founded the Chrysler Corporation in 1925.		
8. All Fiat cars are made in Italy.		
9. Fiat makes smaller cars, which use less fuel.		
10. In 2007 Chrysler was sold to a company called Cerberus.		

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**Panama Canal dispute (Page 4)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Panama Canal dispute'.

The answers to the questions are given for 1-8. Write the questions.

1. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. A Spanish building company called Sacyr.

2. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. US\$3.2 billion (£1.95 billion).

3. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. 96 years.

4. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. The southern tip of South America, or Cape Horn.

5. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. About 5%.

6. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. Eight hours.

7. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. By charging larger ships more money to use the canal.

8. Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. US\$1.6 billion (£970 million).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Chemical weapons leave Syria (Page 8)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Chemical weapons leave Syria'.

Draw a line to connect the correct links. The first is done for you.

United Nations

Refugee camps

China

*MV Cape Ray*

Russia

UN

USA

Syrian port

Chemical attack

Chemical weapons

Jordan

Damascus

WMD

Syria

Latakia

Escort

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Crackdown in Cambodia (Page 3)**

**Instructions:** Read the article 'Crackdown in Cambodia' and fill in the spider diagram below with the details.

**HUN SEN**

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**FACTORY WORKERS**

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**CAMBODIAN NATIONAL  
RESCUE PARTY (CNRP)**

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**CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR  
INDUSTRY**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Latvia joins euro (Page 11)****Instructions:** Read the article 'Latvia joins euro'.

Answer questions 1-8.

1. List the three Baltic States.

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2. What is the 'eurozone'?

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3. Latvia used to use roubles for its currency. Why was this?

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4. When did or when will each of the Baltic States adopt the euro?

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5. Explain what can appear on each side of euro coins.

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6. What designs do Latvian euro coins have?

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7. When were euro banknotes and coins first used? Which three European Union (EU) member countries have chosen not to use the euro?

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8. What has coats of arms and what are they?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**World Map (Page 11)**

**Instructions:** Solve these anagrams. Each answer is a country that appears on the World Map. Each anagram has one extra letter. Together the extra letters form another anagram. The answer is a mystery country. One is already done for you.

1. ARISQ

I	R	A	Q
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2. RCNYWOA

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3. HGNLSTDABAE

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4. GTAOCN

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5. VITIAAL

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6. AQOMEZIOBMU

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7. EBMIGALU

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8. ACRIDOMAB

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9. MAANAPA

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**Mystery country =**

		S					
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Issue 214 Elimination**

**Instructions:** Read issue 214. Now eliminate from the list 13 pairs of words or phrases that go together. You will have one word or phrase left over. That is the answer. One pair is already done for you.

Red crabs

Mount Vesuvius

Ivory

GUPC

Freedom Park

Sochi

HeroRats

WMD

~~Aurora Australis~~

Panama Canal

China

Iraq

Winter Olympics

Latvian maiden

Chemical weapons

Phnom Penh

~~Icebreaker~~

Kalashnikov

Pompeii

Burj Khalifa

Anbar

Christmas Island

Landmines

Dubai

African elephants

Assault rifle

Giant pandas

**Odd one out =** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Issue 214 multiple choice quiz****Instructions:** Read issue 214 and circle the correct answers for questions 1-10.

1. **Of which two gases is the Sun made?**
  - a. Carbon dioxide and methane
  - b. Nitrogen and oxygen
  - c. Carbon monoxide and chlorine
  - d. Hydrogen and helium
  - e. Phosgene and cyanogen chloride
2. **Which county has just joined the 'eurozone'?**
  - a. Latvia
  - b. Sweden
  - c. Denmark
  - d. Poland
  - e. Portugal
3. **To where did the Australian explorer Douglas Mawson lead an expedition in 1911?**
  - a. The North Pole
  - b. Amazon rainforest
  - c. Mount Everest
  - d. Central Africa
  - e. Antarctica
4. **Which car company has become the new owner of Chrysler?**
  - a. Fiat
  - b. Volkswagen
  - c. Toyota
  - d. General Motors (GM)
  - e. BMW
5. **In which city is the Brandenburg Gate?**
  - a. Berlin
  - b. Vienna
  - c. Moscow
  - d. Paris
  - e. Stockholm
6. **Which longitude line, or meridian, does the International Date Line roughly follow?**
  - a. 90°
  - b. 100°
  - c. 120°
  - d. 180°
  - e. 200°
7. **Of which Asian country is Hun Sen the prime minister?**
  - a. Myanmar (Burma)
  - b. Sri Lanka
  - c. Laos
  - d. Cambodia
  - e. Vietnam
8. **Who is the leader of the Awami League political party in Bangladesh?**
  - a. Sheikh Hasina
  - b. Khaleda Zia
  - c. Fakhruddin Ahmed
  - d. Rowshan Ershad
  - e. Latifur Rahman
9. **In which American state are licensed shops now allowed to sell marijuana?**
  - a. Texas
  - b. Colorado
  - c. California
  - d. Massachusetts
  - e. Georgia
10. **In 1972, who gave two giant pandas to the American president, Richard Nixon?**
  - a. Chiang Kai-shek
  - b. Ma Ying-jeou
  - c. Hu Jin-tao
  - d. Mao Zedong
  - e. Deng Xiaoping